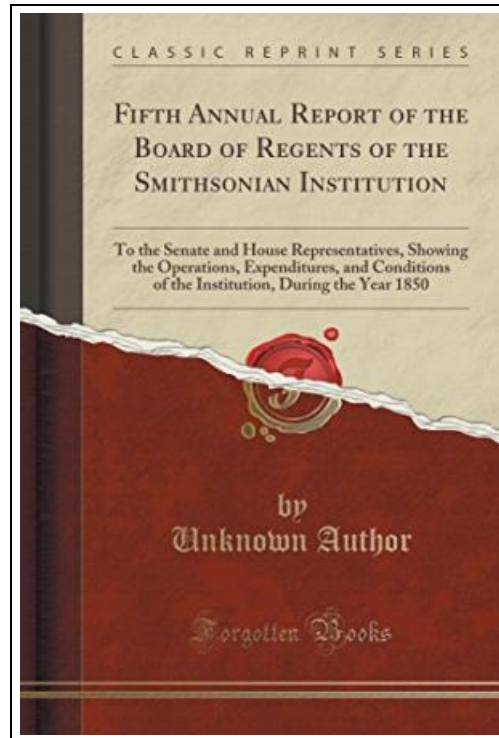


# Fifth Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: To the Senate and House Representatives, Showing the Operations, Expenditures, and Conditions of the Institution, During the Year 1850 (Classic Reprint)



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Forgotten Books, United States, 2015. Paperback. Book Condition: New. 229 x 152 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book \*\*\*\*\* Print on Demand \*\*\*\*\*.Excerpt from Fifth Annual Report of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution: To the Senate and House Representatives, Showing the Operations, Expenditures, and Conditions of the Institution, During the Year 1850 Moreover, there is a tendency in the management of public institutions to lose sight of the object for which they were established, and hence it becomes important frequently to advert to the principles by which they ought to be governed. I beg leave, therefore, as introductory to this report, briefly to recapitulate some of the propositions of the programme of organization, and to state some of the facts connected with its adoption. Smithson left his property, in case of the death of his nephew, to whom it was first bequeathed, to found at Washington under the name of the Smithsonian Institution, an establishment for the increase and diffusion of knowledge among men. These are the only words of the testator to serve as a guide to the adoption of a plan for the execution of his benevolent design. They are found, however, when attentively considered to admit of legitimate deductions sufficiently definite and comprehensive. 1. The bequest is made to the United States, in trust for the good of mankind. 2.The objects of the Institution are two-fold; first, to increase, second, to diffuse knowledge; objects which, though often confounded with each other, are logically distinct and ought to be separately regarded. The first is the enlargement of the existing stock of knowledge by the discovery of new truths, and the second is the dissemination of these and other truths among men. 3. No particular kind of knowledge is designated, hence a liberal interpretation of...



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